We Claim:

1. A method of operating a communication device, comprising:
receiving a broadcast transmission signal;
determining a quality level of the broadcast transmission signal; and
communicating with the base station to establish if the frequency of reverse link transmissions will be altered depending on the determined quality level.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining includes comparing the received signal to a quality threshold.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining includes comparing the received signal to a quality threshold over a predetermined time period.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of communicating includes transmitting an intent to alter the gating and waiting for an acknowledgement.

5. The method according to claim 1, further including the step changing how frequently reverse link communications are transmitted.

6. A method of operating a user device to gate reverse link transmissions, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast signal;

comparing the quality of the received broadcast signal to a quality threshold;

determining whether the quality exceeds the quality threshold,

determining a desired gating rate;

communicating an intent to gate at the desired gating rate;

receiving an acknowledgement; and

increasing the time period between reverse link communications.

7. The method as defined in claim 6, further including the step of receiving the quality threshold.

8. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein the step of determining whether the quality exceeds the quality threshold includes the step of determining whether it exceeds the threshold for a first time period threshold.

9. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein the step of receiving includes receiving an action time.

10. The method as defined in claim 6, including gating the reverse link transmission; and

determining whether the received broadcast quality falls below the quality threshold for a second time threshold ;

transmitting an intent to change the gating rate along with the new gating rate to the serving base station;

receiving an acknowledgement, including an action time;

decreasing the time period between reverse link communications, or removing reverse link gating

11. A method of operating a wireless communication network, comprising the steps of:

determining when a parameter crosses a threshold; and

transmitting a message to select wireless communication devices to start gating on a reverse link when the parameter crosses the threshold.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the parameter is a threshold, and wherein the step of determining includes determining whether the transmit power variability of a broadcast signal exceeds the threshold to determine whether gating is needed.

13. A method according to claim 11 further including the step of determining the number of MS in a sector exceeds a threshold to determine whether gating is needed.

14. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of broadcasting a signal to notify all wireless communication devices in a sector to initiate gating.

15. A method according to claim 11 wherein the step of broadcasting includes a gating start time and a gating rate.

16. A method according to claim 11, wherein the step of gating includes selective gating of reverse link for transmission by wireless communication devices is achieved by sending signaling through forward dedicated control channel (F-DCCH).

17. A method according to claim 16 wherein the step of selective gating includes have individual start time and rate of gating.

18. A method according to claim 11 wherein mobiles near the cell edge are less gated and mobile devices near the base station are heavily gated.

19. A method according to claim 16 wherein the number of power up requests from a user device during a predetermined time period, and to gate the reverse link if the fraction of power ups is small.

20. A method according to claim 11 wherein a measurement report based on pilot strength measured at the user device is used to determine broadcast channel quality.

21. A wireless communication device comprising:

a transceiver;

a controller coupled to the transceiver, the controller operable to determining a quality level of a received signal and determine with the base station to establish if reverse link quality measurements will be provided at a first rate or a second rate depending on the quality level.

22. A network element comprising:

a transceiver;

a controller coupled to the transceiver, the controller operable to determining a quality level of a received signal and determine with the base station to establish if reverse link quality measurements will be provided at a first rate or a second rate depending on the quality level..